THE BADLANDS HOLIDAY READER

An Illustrated Guide to the Perils of the Season

WINTER ISSUE

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"I FOUGHT SANTA... AND LIVED"

True Tales of Smissmas Courage, p.37

JULIUS!
COME QUICKLY!
A MOST BLESSED EVENT HAS TRANSPIRED!
TIK TIK TIK
GOOD HEAVENS, ARCHIBALD! DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME?
BOMBS FOR THE POOR
NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARITY
~DONATIONS WELCOME~
THEY DO NOT, MY FRIEND!
SOME GOOD— NAY, MESSIAH-LIKE SAMARITAN HAS LEFT A TICKING BOMB UPON OUR RAIL-STOOP!
TRULY IT IS A SMISSMAS MIRACLE FOR THE POOR BOMBLESS UNFORTUNATES OF TEUFORT!
TIK TIK TIK
LET US EMBRACE IN CELEBRATION!
BOMBS FOR THE POO
NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARITY
~DONATIONS WELCOME~
THEY NEVER EVEN LEFT THEIR NAMES! IT MAKES THEIR HEROISM THAT MUCH MORE LEGALLY D
OH
"LET ME STOP YOU RIGHT THERE..."

...IN YOUR RAMBLING, INCOHERENT, HIGHLY DUBIOUS, SELF-AGGRANDIZING STORY...

...TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU ARE ***UNDER OATH***, SIR.

ARE YOU ***CERTAIN*** THIS IS THE *TRUTHFUL VERSION OF THE EVENTS* THAT BROUGHT YOU AND YOUR MASKED ACCOMPLICE HERE TODAY?

YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT IT IS. I—

NO NO.

REALLY GENUINELY TAKE A MOMENT TO THINK ABOUT THIS.

UH...

MAYBE I BETTER... CHECK WITH MY... LEGAL COUNSEL.

BLU & RED OUT OF TEUFORT

YES.

YOUR HONOR, I ***SWEAR*** THAT IS ***EXACTLY*** WHAT HAPPENED.

FINE. THEN IT WILL SURPRISE YOU TO LEARN THAT THE BOMB DID ***NOT*** DETONATE IN A BOMB-DISTRIBUTING CHARITY...

...WHICH, AS I'VE REMINDED YOU SEVERAL TIMES, *HAS NOT* AND *WILL NEVER* EXIST...

...BUT IN FACT BLEW UP A MALL SANTA TRAINING FACILITY.

AND SINCE YOU HAVE FAILED TO IDENTIFY ***ANY*** OF YOUR CO-CONSPIRATORS, YOU WILL BE SENTENCED TO—

WHOA-HO-HO! NOBODY TOLD ME I COULD NAME NAMES!

SEE MY COURT-APPOINTED LAWYER THERE? HE MASTERMINDED THE WHOLE THING!

JUDAS!

ORDER! ORDER!

I AM GOING TO KILL YOU BEFORE THEY GIVE ME THE CHAIR!

YOU— ARE— THE— WORST— LAWYER!

ENOUGH!

NOBODY'S GETTING THE CHAIR!

I HEREBY SENTENCE ***ALL THREE*** OF YOU IMBECILES...

"...TO *COMMUNITY SERVICE.*"

ELF? EXCUSE ME?

HOW LONG IS THE WAIT TO MEET SANTA?

THE TEUFORT DEP OF CORRECTIONS INVITES U TO...

MEET SANTA!

ALL YEAR, EVERY EAR

WARNING: THE VIEWS OF SANTA DO REFLECT THOSE OF THE TEU ESSARIL

FOR A PRETTY SINGLE MOM LIKE *YOU?*

HOW DOES *RIGHT NOW* SOUND?

OH, I *HAVE* A HUSBAND. HE'S PARKING THE C

BACKA THE LINE.

"AN' I WANNA ACTION SAXTON, AND A ACTION SAXTON HIPPIE-DROME BATTLE ARENA, AN' A..."

SINGLE MOMS

EVERYBODY ELSE

...POOPY JOE RESCUE ROCKET, AN' I WANNA...

SON, THOSE ARE ALL JUST THINGS YOU *WANT.*

THIS SANTA GIVES YOU THINGS YOU *NEED.*

ONE: A SENSIBLE HAIRCUT.

BZZZZZZZZZZ

HENRY! THAT SANTA'S SHAVING LITTLE JACK'S HEAD!

NOW HOLD ON A *DAMN SECOND*, PAL...

TWO: I WILL GIVE YOU THE GIFT OF *MANHOOD.*

YOU ARE GOING TO WATCH...

WHILE SANTA BEATS UP YOUR FATHER IN FRONT OF YOU.

YAYYY?

"YOU NEED TO GET US *OUT* OF HERE, MISS PAULING..."

FIRST THINGS FIRST. *HOW* DID SOLDIER BECOME A PUBLIC DEFENDER?
IT'S A *LONG* STORY, BUT CHAPTER ONE: HIS ROOMMATE IS A MAGICIAN.
SHOULD I CONTINUE?
YOU KNOW WHAT? NEVERMIND.
THANK YOU.
THE IMPORTANT THING IS WE'RE WORKING ON IT.
JUST *DON'T MAKE IT WORSE.*
NOT A PROBLEM.
C'MERE, YOU...
EVERYTHING SEEMS NORMAL SO FAR.
PEOPLE OF TEUFORT!

OUT OF CURIOSITY.

HOW MUCH ***MORE*** TROUBLE WILL WE BE IN IF ALL THE CHILDREN GET ABDUCTED?

SPY.

TAKE.

CARE.

OF.

THIS.

NOW.

SPY?

SPY?

MISTER?

HERE. HOLD THIS.

WHAT?

I'M SCARED.

IS THAT A ***CHILD?*** SPY? THIS ISN'T ***FUNNY!***

MM.

PERFECTLY NATURAL TO BE SCARED. WE'RE ALL IN A LOT OF DANGER.

CRACK

WHAM

I AM OLD NICK!

THE SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS.

AND I HAVE COME FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

...

HUH.

TAKE THIS. I HAVE A PLAN.
LITTLE BOY?
BUT YOU MUST DO WHAT I SAY.
STAY IN PLAIN SIGHT.
RUN.
DO NOT MOVE UNTIL I TELL YOU.
RUN!
DO NOT LISTEN TO THE VOICE ON THE PHONE.
NO MATTER HOW SCARED YOU FEEL.

WRAPPING PAPER.
YOU PLAN TO STOP ME... WITH WRAPPING PAPER.

YEP.
WHY DON'T YOU BRING THAT LITTLE MINK STOLE OVER HERE AND ***SHOW*** ME HOW STUPID MY WRAPPIN' PAPER IS?

IT ISN'T A *STOLE*, ELF. IT IS A *CAPE*. AND IT'S MADE OF —
POIK!

SMASH!

YOU MISERABLE–

THE POWER OF SMISSMAS COMPELS YOU!

COMPOUND ELEVATED SKULL FRACTURE!

URNRNRNH...

MISTER?

WELL NOW...

LOOK WHO WASN'T SMART ENOUGH TO ***RUN.***

MY WORKSHOP USUALLY REQUIRES FIFTY CHILDREN TO FUNCTION.

THIS ONE WILL SIMPLY HAVE TO WORK ***VERY*** HARD.

TAKE MY ADVICE, PAL.

THAT IS ***NOT*** THE KID YOU WANNA ABDUCT.

REALLY? AND WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT ***THIS*** CHILD?

AUUUGGHHHHHRRRRGHGHGHGHGHHH...

TUNK

WHADUMP

HEH. SPY, I HAVE SEEN YOU STAB LIKE A MILLION GUYS...

AND *THAT...* WAS MY FAVORITE.

SPY?

HERE THEY ARE.

THE ***HEROES*** WHO SAVED THE CHILDREN OF TEUFORT.

TEUFORT NEWS. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE HEROES?

IF I'M HONEST?

FEELS LIKE A SATURDAY.

I AM HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THE EXISTENCE OF A CONFLICT I WAS *PREVIOUSLY UNAWARE OF!*

THE WAR ON SMISSMAS!

AND LADY, ***WE ARE WINNING!***

I STABBED A MAN. IN THE *NECK*.

I DID *JUST* WHAT YOU SAID.

MM.

I WAS *SO* SCARED.

AND ARE YOU STILL SCARED?

HM.

NO.

GOOD.

MERRY SMISSMAS.

Beaufort Times

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF SUDDEN MERCENARY ATTACK

FREE TO SUBSCRIBERS

LOCAL HEROES KILL SANTA

Awarded Full Pardon for Destruction of Thought-to-be-Mythical Holiday Mascot

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pulvinar varius convallis. Fusce interdum, mi tempor ultric sagittis, sapien sapien sagittis magna, fringilla lectus.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE TEAM FORTRESS 2 TEAM!